

# Asbestos Letter

## **TO THE PERMIT APPLICANT:**

Projects involving partial or full demolition of an existing structure may encounter asbestos-bearing materials and lead contamination. Handling, abatement, and disposal of these materials are subject to regulation by federal and state agencies. It is the responsibility of the property owner to comply with these regulations. Violation of the regulations could result in substantial fines and serious exposure to civil liability. The exposure for the property owner is serious if proper procedures are not followed.

Residential asbestos is most commonly found in the rough ceiling textures, furnace ducts, insulation, acoustic ceiling panels, roofing felts, tar paper, composition shingles, cementitious panels such as cement asbestos board, vinyl-asbestos tile, sheet flooring materials, back for sheet materials and thin sheet underlayments. Lead is most commonly found in the paint of older residences, gutters, flashings, copper plumbing joints, plumbing fittings, lead joints etc. On occasion, lead is used for acoustic purposes, even in current construction.

Prior to the issue of permits for projects that involve partial or full demolition of an existing structure, this jurisdiction requires that the property owner review the property for potential asbestos-bearing material and lead-bearing material, and certify intent to comply with all agency regulations regarding these materials. It is the responsibility of the property owner to regulate work by the contractor(s), obtain required permit(s), and treat the hazardous materials in the manner prescribed by law. Violations observed will be reported to the appropriate agency, and officials of this jurisdiction may stop work if potential hazards to personal and public safety are observed to exist.

It is very important to you and to your projected project costs that you be aware of the regulations imposed by agencies outside this jurisdiction. Please inform yourself of the asbestos abatement requirements by contacting Puget Sound Clean Agency, PSCAA, phone 206.689.4058. Additional information is available online at:

<http://www.pscleanair.org> For lead abatement and disposal requirements contact King County's Hazardous Waste Directory on line at: <http://www.hazwastehelp.org/>

The asbestos and lead certification form must be filled out prior to issuance of a permit for any project which proposes to demolish part or all of an existing structure. Although this may seem to be a distasteful task, knowing what is required, and how not to incur possible penalties, is in your best interest in the long term.



Town Hall, 3000 Hunts Point Road, Hunts Point, WA 98004-1121. Phone 425.455.1834.  
Permit intake and issuance hours are Tuesday and Thursday, 8:30 am – 5:00 pm.  
Building Services Department 425.455.1834.